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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Leonard EKKERT

Art Unit: 3727

Serial No.: 10/077,367

Examiner: Lien M. Ngo

Filed: February 15, 2002

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD
ALLOWING GAS FLOW INTO
AND/OR OUT OF CONTAINER
ASSEMBLIES

Attorney

Docket No.: 1620-81553

TERMINAL DISCLAIMER TO OBVIATE A
DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION OVER A PRIOR PATENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The owner, Phoenix Closures, Inc., of 100 percent interest in the instant application hereby disclaims, except as provided below, the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted on the instant application which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 to 156 and 173, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,257,432. The owner hereby agrees that any patent so granted on the instant application shall be enforceable only for and during such period that it and the prior patent are commonly owned. This agreement runs with any patent granted on the instant application and is binding upon the grantee, its successors or assigns.

In making the above disclaimer, the owner does not disclaim the terminal part of any patent granted on the instant application that would extend to the expiration date of the full statutory term as defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 to 156 and 173 of the prior patent, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, in the event that it later expires for failure to pay a maintenance fee, is held unenforceable, is found invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, is statutorily disclaimed in whole or terminally disclaimed under 37 C.F.R. 1.321, has all claims cancelled by a reexamination

certificate, is reissued, or is in any manner terminated prior to the expiration of its full statutory term as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer.

Check either 1 or 2 below, if appropriate.

1. For submissions on behalf of an organization (e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.), the undersigned is empowered to act on behalf of the organization.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2. The undersigned is an attorney of record.

Monday, December 01, 2003

Date

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.


Signature

Daniel M. Gurfinkel, Reg. No. 34,177

Type or printed name

Terminal disclaimer fee under 37 CFR 1.20(d) included.

PTO suggested wording for terminal disclaimer was

unchanged. changed (if changed, an explanation should be supplied.)

December 1, 2003
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